

*Chm*  
*To the Bootle Rural District Council.*

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# ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 1907.

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RAVENGLASS,

*February, 1908.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to place before you my Annual Report for 1907, and the usual Tables of Statistics.

You will notice that there is a slight decrease in the number of births, and increase in deaths, Millom, Bootle, and Seascale again account for the majority of the total, and as last year half the total are 65 years and upwards.

There are 20 cases of infectious disease notified, against 21 last year, 11 of the number being in the parish of Bootle.

There were one or two epidemics of Mumps, and Measles occurred during the year, necessitating the closing of schools.

The climate has been, as usual, very changeable and wet, the rainfall being above the average.

*Scarlet Fever.*—Five cases, three at Ravenglass and two in the Millom district; origin was very obscure. The three cases at Ravenglass were in one family, and commenced at the same time, and were at once removed to the Conjoint Isolation Hospital, and no further outbreak occurred. One of the Millom cases was also treated at the Hospital.

The Conjoint Hospital is very well arranged, and the accommodation most satisfactory. The patients speak very highly of their treatment there. There is no doubt prompt isolation is very effective in many cases, although Isolation Hospitals in large towns are not realizing the expectations which were anticipated, the number of infectious cases increasing instead of decreasing, and their maintenance very costly. I think we shall find shortly a great change in the present system of Isolation Hospitals.

*Diphtheria*.—Eight cases, all occurring in the Bootle parish; they were of a sporadic nature, none of the cases from the infected houses could in any way be connected with each other. In most cases some local insanitary condition existed; the true origin is most difficult to obtain. There are grounds for believing that areas which favour retention in the soil of wetness and of dead organic matter, and are exposed to the influence of cold wet winds, do tend to the fostering of Diphtheria. Season exerts a marked influence on its behaviour, the fourth quarter of the year having the highest rate of mortality. Milk is a very common vehicle of Diphtheria, and can be derived from the cow herself, as well as from specific contamination by the human subject. Other animals, as cats, pigeons, fowls, suffer from Diphtheria, and may become sources of contagion to human beings; probably rats and mice may suffer from the disease, and how very frequently they have access to the dairies and pantrys of many houses. Insanitary conditions no doubt are predisposing causes—faulty sewers and drains, collections of offensive refuse, garbage, and the like.

*Erysipelas*.—Five cases.

*Measles*.—One or two epidemics.

*Sanitary Work*.—The Sanitary work, I am afraid, does not show any improvement—the bye-laws are still ignored, likewise many of the insanitary complaints, and if notice is served upon an owner of property where insanitary conditions exist, the matter ends there. It is very rarely that the Council see that the existing insanitary condition is put right. I reported two cases in Raven-glass of infringement of the Council's bye-laws; one where sewer pipes had been clay jointed instead of cemented, and the other where a laundry sewer had been connected to the main sewer at *right angles* by means of an angular saddle junction (made to connect at a proper angle). The owner of the clay jointed pipes was made to take up his pipes and cement the joints; the owner of the

laundry drain was not interfered with, and the Sanitary Inspector even reported to the Council that the laundry drain had been connected in an efficient and sanitary way, although he had never seen it. Why one person is made to remedy an infringement of the bye-laws and insanitary conditions, and another person is not, is a very questionable policy of the Council. It was only after my persistent complaining the matter was taken up and the laundry connection opened, when the committee appointed said my complaint was justifiable, and the sewer was ordered to be connected at a proper angle by a sewer pipe with proper curve. It is nearly a year since, and this has not been done—and I suppose never will. Referring to the “complaints” of bad smells by visitors staying at Seascale, which existed along the railway side, which I mentioned in my last year’s Report—no action was taken by the Council or Railway Company, although persistently urged to do so by myself and the inhabitants of Seascale, and it was well into the beginning of the Seascale season that the Seascale people, in desperation, sent a petition to the Directors of the Railway Company. Immediate action was taken, and the sewer along the line side was taken up and relaid, the open gratings removed, shewing that there was ample cause for “complaints.” This work should have been done during the previous winter, when the matter was brought frequently before the Council, and not in the season when the visitors are in the place. There have been many complaints of “smells” opposite The Crescent, Seascale, obviously from the sewer, which if properly investigated I feel sure ample cause will be found.

I wish to ask your consideration on Milk and Meat Supplies, which are of great national importance.

The Factories and Workshops Act only affects us very slightly in our District, inspections being the chief work.

*Water.*—Eskdale Green is still without a water supply, which is very detrimental to the place. The water schemes in our district are satisfactory, but the Seascale and Drigg supply was still very filthy all last summer; it might be a trifle better towards the end of the year. There is no reason why it should not be supplied clear and free from colour.

The New Vaccination Act has come into force, and is really more of an exemption act. It is very serious to think what fearful results may occur from there being so many unvaccinated people supplying food for the development of that loathsome disease and

fearful scourge, Smallpox ; no other preventative or mitigating treatment having been substituted. Vaccination, from statistics, has proved one of the best preventatives of infant mortality—no other infectious disease, in spite of isolation hospitals and improved sanitation, can compare with it.

*The Education Act.*—Medical inspection of children is a step in the right direction, but the carrying out of the details will be costly, and entail a great deal of work. To examine a child according to the Act, and do the clerical work it entails in a few minutes without interfering with the teachers and work of the school, is absurd, and would be of no statistical value whatever. Twenty to thirty minutes for each child, with as much help as the teachers could give, would be the least time that a satisfactory examination could be made in.

*Recommended.*—Refer you to the various items mentioned in my last year's Report under this heading, and ask you to consider them very seriously ; also to give me your prompt assistance in improving the sanitary condition of our district, investigating every complaint and insanitary condition, seeing that every insanitary condition is put right at once, and in the best sanitary manner. By so doing you will considerably lighten my duties, for to be always bringing up the same complaint from time to time is intensely disagreeable to myself, and makes my duties much more difficult.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. EDEN CASS,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

TABLE A.—POPULATION.

Census 1881	..	..	..	..	..	5,992
„ 1891	..	..	..	..	..	5,982
„ 1901	..	..	..	..	..	5,469
Estimated to middle of 1907	..	..	..	..	..	5,163 nearly

## BIRTHS AND DEATHS (with their rates).

			Births	Birth-rate		Deaths	Death-rate
1898	..	..	130	21·7	..	67	11·2
1899	..	..	141	23·6	..	83	13·8
1900	..	..	112	18·7	..	72	12·05
1901	..	..	116	21·3	..	68	12·5
1902	..	..	120	22·1	..	79	14·6
1903	..	..	123	22·9	..	104	19·4
1904	..	..	127	25·5	..	68	13·7
1905	..	..	115	21·3	..	73	13·5
1906	..	..	98	16·9	..	64	12·3
1907	..	..	90	17·4	..	79	13·3

TABLE B.—DEATHS.

			1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
Under 1 year	..	..	10	12	11	4	17	14	9	6	8	7
1 and under 5 years	..	..	5	4	7	3	3	7	1	6	3	1
5 „ 15 „	..	..	0	5	4	3	1	5	1	2	2	6
15 „ 25 „	..	..	5	4	0	4	1	6	0	3	2	2
25 „ 65 „	..	..	21	26	15	24	19	31	31	27	17	24
65 years and upwards	..	..	27	32	35	30	38	41	26	29	32	39
Totals	..	..	67	83	72	68	79	104	68	73	64	79

TABLE C.

			1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
BIRTHS.—Males	..	..	73	80	57	74	72	64	64	62	42	46
Females	..	..	57	61	55	42	48	59	63	53	56	44
Totals	..	..	130	141	112	116	120	123	127	115	98	90
DEATHS.—Males	..	..	31	45	41	35	35	59	44	41	31	48
Females	..	..	36	38	31	33	44	45	24	32	33	31
Totals	..	..	67	83	72	68	79	104	68	73	64	79
Inquests	..	..	3	6	8	6	2	9	5	1	1	5
Uncertified Deaths	..	..	0	1	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0
Deaths in Workhouse	..	..	3	7	3	8	3	8	4	6	2	8

TABLE D.—ZYMOTIC DEATH-RATE.

1898==·1	1899==1·1	1900==·6	1901==·3	1902==·8
1903==·7	1904==·2	1905==·5	1906==·3	1907==·0



TABLE E.

Infant Mortality, 1898	...	...	...	...	76.2
„ 1899	...	...	...	...	85.1
„ 1900	...	...	...	...	98.2
„ 1901	...	...	...	...	34.4
„ 1902	...	...	...	...	141.6
„ 1903	...	...	...	...	113.8
„ 1904	...	...	...	...	70.8
„ 1905	...	...	...	...	52.1
„ 1906	...	...	...	...	81.6
„ 1907	...	...	...	...	77.7

TABLE F.

				1906.			1907.		
				BIRTHS.			BIRTHS.		
				DEATHS.			DEATHS.		
				Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Birker and Austhwaite	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	2
Bootle	...	...	...	6	7	13	8	1	9
Corney	...	...	...	3	1	4	1	3	4
Drigg	...	...	...	3	3	6	1	4	5
Eskdale	...	...	...	2	2	4	...	2	2
Wastdale	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
Irton	...	...	...	5	3	8	1	2	3
Millom	...	...	...	9	19	28	8	5	13
Muncaster	...	...	...	2	7	9	2	5	7
Ulpha	...	...	...	1	3	4	1	...	1
Waberthwaite	...	...	...	1	3	4	...	2	2
Whitbeck	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	...	2
Whicham	...	...	...	5	4	9	2	3	5
Seascale	...	...	...	4	3	7	5	5	10
Totals	...	...	...	42	56	98	31	33	64
				46	44	90	48	31	79

TABLE G.—The Causes and Number of Deaths in the Localities of the District.—1907.

	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Group.	Whooping Cough.	Typhus Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Other or Doubtful Fevers.	Cholera.	Rheumatic Fever.	Pyæmia.	Ague.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia.	Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Injuries.	All Other Diseases.	TOTAL.
Birker and Austhwaite	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	6	2	...	2
Bootle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	7	14
Corney	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
Drigg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	5	7
Eskdale and Wastdale	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	3	3
Irton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	5	...	2	4
Millom	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...
Muncaster	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...
Ulpha ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Waberthwaite	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
Whitbeck	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whicham ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Seascale	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5
TOTALS	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	6	16	5	48	79





TABLE A.L.G.B.—Mortality from all Causes at subjoined Ages.—1907.

	At all Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Birker and Austhwaite...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...
Bootle ...	14	...	...	1	1	3	9
Corney ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
Drigg ...	7	...	...	1	...	4	2
Eskdale and Wastdale ...	3	...	...	...	...	...	2
Irton ...	4	1	...	...	...	...	3
Millom ...	20	1	...	2	...	7	3
Muncaster ...	3	1	...	...	...	1	10
Ulpha ...	5	2	...	...	1	1	1
Waberthwaite ...	5	1	1	...	...	3	...
Whitbeck ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
Whicham ...	4	...	...	1	...	...	3
Seascale ...	8	1	...	1	...	3	3
TOTALS.....	79	7	1	6	2	24	39

TABLE I.—NOTIFICATION ACT.—List of Cases notified during 1907.

TOWNSHIP.		Smallpox.	Cholera.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhus.	Enteric Fever.	Continued or Relapsing Fever.	Puerperal.	TOTAL.
Birker and Austhwaite	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bootle	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	11
Corney	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Drigg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Eskdale	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wastdale	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Irton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Millom	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Muncaster	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	3
Ulpha	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Waberthwaite	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whitbeck	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Whicham	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Seascale	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
TOTALS		...	...	8	...	5	5	...	2	...	...	20

TABLE J.—NOTIFICATION ACT.—Age Record of Cases notified during 1907.

		Under 5 years.	5 years and upwards.	TOTAL.
Smallpox	...	.....	.....	.....
Cholera	...	.....	.....	.....
Diphtheria	...	2	6	8
Membranous Croup	...	.....	.....	.....
Erysipelas	...	.....	5	5
Scarlet Fever	...	1	4	5
Typhus	...	.....	.....	.....
Enteric	...	.....	2	2
Continued or Relapsing Fevers	...	.....	.....	.....
Puerperal Fever	...	.....	.....	.....
TOTALS	...	3	17	20

TABLE K.—NOTIFICATION ACT.—Monthly Record, 1907.

	Smallpox.	Cholera.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhus Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Continued or Relapsing Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	TOTAL.
January	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
February	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
March	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
April	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
May	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
June	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
July	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
August	...	...	...	...	2	3	...	...	...	...	3
September	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	4
October	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2
November	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	5
December	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2
TOTAL	...	...	8	...	5	5	...	2	...	...	20